

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1950	17295	9655
14.	Orissa	1972	4139	3313
15.	Patna	1951	6586	6657
16.	Punjab and Haryana	1964	27587	33791
17.	Rajasthan	1956	7893	6674
18.	Sikkim	1996	0	2
			3,38,808	5,00,855

CBI Investigation in Dredging Contract

2460. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has completed its investigation regarding irregularities in awarding dredging contract in 1998 by Kandla Port Trust to Dharti Dredging Co. Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government on the CBI's report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Central Bureau of Investigation registered a case on 27-10-2000 regarding irregularities committed in awarding dredging contract by Kandla Port Trust to Dharti Dredging Co. Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad in 1998-99. The matter is under investigation by Gandhinagar (Gujarat) Branch of Central Bureau of Investigation.

(c) Does not arise.

Privatisation of Major Indian Ports

2461. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government to privatise the Indian major ports;

(b) whether it is a fact that one foreign party has won the rights in four major Indian Ports;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the same foreign party has interest in Karachi and Colombo which are rivals to Indian ports; and

(d) if so, what government propose to do to ward off any harm to our national interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The policy of the Government is to allow private sector participation in the projects of the Major Port Trusts and the guidelines in this regard identify the following areas:

- (i) Leasing out existing assets of the port.
- (ii) Construction/creation of additional assets.
- (iii) Leasing of equipment for port handling and leasing of floating crafts from the private sector.
- (iv) Pilotage.
- (v) Captive facilities for port based industries.

(b) One foreign party was awarded the Container Terminal project at Jawaharlal Nehru Port during 1997 and is operating this terminal. The offer of the same party has been accepted for the container Terminal Projects at Kandla and Chennai Ports. The offer of this party also happens to be most attractive in the bidding process for the Container Terminal Project at Cochin.

(c) and (d) It is true that the same party is involved in Container terminals at Karachi and Colombo. Private party is selected after following transparent bidding procedure and national interest is always kept paramount in decision making.

Reserve Deposits of KPT

†2462. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the reserve deposits of Kandla Port Trust as on date;
- (b) the total amount contemplated to be released by the Trust,

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.